

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 24158 182227Z

64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3269

INFO AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 24158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, TO

SUBJECT: EYADEMA'S VISIT TO PARIS

REF: LOME 2018

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 17 DEVOTED LARGELY TO OTHER SUBJECTS, QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA ASCRIBED NO SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO PRESIDENT EYADEMA'S CURRENT PRIVATE VISIT TO FRANCE. HE SAID THAT THE TOGOLESE PRESIDENT WAS HIS USUAL SELF-CONFIDENT SELF BUT THAT THE ATMOSPHERE OF EYADEMA'S SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH GISCARD AND THE MINISTERS OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, COOPERATION AND FINANCE WAS NONETHELESS GOOD. EYADEMA EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN ABOUT PHOSPHATE SALES AND INTERNAL OPPOSITION, NOTABLY THAT OF STUDENTS, BUT SEEMED UNSHAKEN IN HIS CONVICTION THAT HE IS THE SAVIOUR OF HIS COUNTRY.

2. ACCORDING TO REMOVILLE, NO SPECTACULAR NEW COOPERATION ACCORD WAS REACHED. THE ONE NEW DEPARTURE WAS FRENCH AGREEMENT TO BEGIN TRAINING MEN FOR THE EMBRYONIC
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PAGE 02 PARIS 24158 182227Z

TOGOLESE NAVY. DEFENSE MINISTER BOURGES ANNOUNCED THAT

FRANCE WILL FURNISH TOGO FIVE FOUGA MAGISTER PLANES, TO BE DELIVERED IN 1976, AND TWO COASTAL VESSELS FOR LATER DELIVERY IN 1976. FRANCE WILL ALSO INCREASE ITS TRAINING OF AIRFORCE PILOTS AND TECHNICIANS.

3. AMONG THE ECONOMIC PROJECTS DISCUSSED WERE CONSTRUCTION OF A CEMENT PLANT FINANCED BY THE IBRD AND FRANCE, THE LOME AIRPORT AND A PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER FACTORY. FINANCE MINISTER FOURCADE TOLD THE PRESS THAT IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOGO AND THE RECOVERY OF FRANCE, HE AND EYADEMA "AGREED ON THE DESIRABILITY OF A MORE STABLE EXCHANGE SYSTEM."

4. FINALLY, REMOVILLE SAID EYADEMA BECAME ALMOST APOPOLECTIC WHEN DAMNING THE CURRENT DAHOMEAN GOVERNMENT. HIS RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA, ON THE OTHER HAND, SEEM NOT TO HAVE SUFFERED SINCE TOGO RECEIVED GOWON, REMOVILLE SAID.
RUSH

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